

Two Trillion 1111

Chapter 1111: You, Dare to Accept the Challenge!

Qian Haoyu suddenly spoke up, his accusation pointed directly at Bai Xiaosheng.

Everyone present was stunned and looked back and forth.

On one side was the Zhang Family's honored guest, Qian Family's young master; on the other, a young guest they had never seen before.

How did these two get into a conflict?!

Nobody knew.

However, seeing that some "entertainment" was about to happen, almost everyone's eyes lit up!

Just tasting wine and having a prize was indeed nice.

But who would complain about watching a good show unfold!

At once, people voiced their enthusiasm, incredibly lively.

"Mr. Yu is right, hey, brother, everyone here has spoken up, you come to this wine tasting just to drink silently, not even saying a word, or is it that... you simply don't understand!"

"If you really don't understand at all... haha, that can't be, everyone here comes from notable families, who hasn't drunk a few bottles of red wine, you should be able to say something."

"Could it be shyness?"

"Haha, a man being shy? But this gentleman here does look prim and proper, maybe he's modest and waiting for the right moment to show his strength."

"Pfft, everyone knows that the better wines come out later and are harder to judge; if you don't speak up at the beginning, you think you can wow everyone later? That's a joke."

Although the people didn't know Bai Xiaosheng's background, they all knew Qian Haoyu's. He was Zhang Yudong's classmate and friend, and even more so, the Zhang Family's favored savior and the most cherished offspring of the Qian Family; aligning with his side was definitely the right move.

The young man Qian Haoyu had singled out, even if he had some backing, could he compare to such a figure?

Beside Bai Xiaosheng, Jia Dazhuang was somewhat taken aback.

He had previously told Bai Xiaosheng not to get into a conflict with Qian Haoyu or Huo Yumeng, but he never expected them to be so eagerly looking for trouble!

Facing the mockery, Bai Xiaosheng remained indifferent, unmoved.

Actions speak louder than words, the best way to counter is to outperform one's opponent in the act, that's how to shut the opponent and all those eager onlookers up for good!

Engaging in a tit-for-tat argument is not only boring but also demeaning.

"What are you talking about!"

Bai Xiaosheng could endure, and so could Lei Ying, who just watched the other side coldly.

But Lin Weiwei couldn't.

Usually, her patience wasn't small, but there was one thing—

Do not involve Bai Xiaosheng!

Otherwise, Lin Weiwei's patience would significantly diminish.

At this moment, Lin Weiwei stepped forward, speaking out angrily.

"Yo, miss, since you've stepped forward, are you going to stand up for someone? You, a mere servant, do you even have the right to speak here?" Huo Yumeng spoke, her face sneering with frivolous scrutiny of Lin Weiwei, "Even if you do, do you understand wine? Or do you want, like a shrew, to put on a 'limited' show in this elegant setting!"

Huo Yumeng's words were harsh, brimming with hostility from the get-go, targeting Lin Weiwei.

Jia Dazhuang was shocked by Huo Yumeng's provocation, and he glanced at Bai Xiaosheng somewhat uneasily.

He had told them to be wary of those two, but he didn't expect them to be so eager to cause trouble!

This shouldn't be happening; given the status of Qian Haoyu and Huo Yumeng, they wouldn't target these people!

Jia was utterly baffled.

Nevertheless, his advice remained the same—it was best not to provoke those two and it was impossible to do so!

In fact, Jia secretly tugged at Bai Xiaosheng's sleeve, signaling him to stay calm, not only himself but also for Miss Lin beside him to cool down.

Bai Xiaosheng ignored Jia and narrowed his eyes at Huo Yumeng's expression, discerning certain emotions—

Hostility, jealousy?

Was Huo Yumeng jealous of Weiwei?

Bai Xiaosheng was extremely surprised.

"This is the Zhang Family's place, you, if you dare to cause trouble here, we'll have you thrown out! By then, Brother Dong won't have a word to say!" Huo Yumeng coldly huffed.

The Brother Dong she mentioned must be Zhang Yudong.

That look in her eye was distinctly different.

Was she jealous of Lin Weiwei because of Zhang Yudong?

Under Bai Xiaosheng's intense gaze, he read her thoughts, yet felt baffled.

Did Lin Weiwei show any bit of affection for Zhang Yudong?

Only in the garage there, the two of them laughed and exchanged a couple of words.

At that time, this woman was there too...

Bai Xiaosheng suddenly understood.

This Huo Yumeng was simply a vinegar pot!

But then, why was Qian Haoyu picking a fight with him?

Bai Xiaosheng thought hard.

When Qian Haoyu criticized him earlier, he specifically emphasized that he was welcomed by Zhang Yudong, and his expression was frankly full of hate.

Could it be just because of this?!

Bai Xiaosheng found it incredible.

Just because Zhang Yudong seemed to treat him with more courtesy, he couldn't stand it?

Could there really be such petty people in this world?

"In terms of wine tasting, if you really want to show off, then spit out some precise descriptions," Huo Yumeng sneered, "Can you? Has someone like you ever tasted such fine red wine!"

Huo Yumeng was relentless, each sentence dripping with sarcasm.

Lin Weiwei was also infuriated, "Of course, I can say. However, just now, that gentleman has already said it all, what do you want me to say!"

Lin Weiwei knew everything, but Qian Haoyu had already said it all.

Besides, it was just repetition.

It wouldn't be enough to convince anyone and would only make her a target for ridicule, like someone who picks up others' discarded wisdom.

"Ha-ha, what a joke! Others have said it, and you claim you know it too, you really are something!" Huo Yumeng laughed loudly and spat out, "Shameless, but not this blatantly."

"Yeah, beauty. Since you like what I've said so much, why don't we find some time tonight, and I'll give you a good rundown," Qian Haoyu added his sinister laughter.

Guests around them, men with meaningful smiles on their faces and women smirking with a hint of sarcasm.

Lin Weiwei's face nearly turned the color of wine with anger, shaking with rage.

"This is too much!" Jia Dazhuang couldn't hold back any longer, standing up angrily, "Mr. Yu, Miss Yumeng, even if you are the highest guests of the Zhang Family, you can't bully people like this! Even I, Jia, can't stand to watch this!"

Jia Dazhuang was truly supportive.

Unfortunately, his words fell on deaf ears.

Neither Qian Haoyu nor Huo Yumeng even glanced at him.

The woman in charge of the wine subtly changed her expression, watching for any changes in Bai Xiaosheng's demeanor.

If Bai Xiaosheng became displeased, they had to intervene!

The Zhang Family's servants were also watching Bai Xiaosheng from every direction.

They couldn't afford to let the honored guest lose face.

Some were already rushing to report to Zhang Yudong.

As Lin Weiwei was engulfed in anger and Huo Yumeng was basking in triumph, a hand landed on Lin Weiwei's shoulder and gently patted it.

"Weiwei, there's no need to stoop to their level."

Behind her, Bai Xiaosheng spoke unhurriedly, "So what if it's just the first round, and the least valuable bottle of wine was taken? So what!"

"If you'd like, I'll win the next two bottles for you."

"Then, we'll see who the true ignoramus is, who only spouts big words, crudely ignorant, without a hint of self-awareness!"

Bai Xiaosheng said this nonchalantly.

Yet he seemed to hold all the aces.

Hearing this, Lin Weiwei quickly calmed down and glanced back at Bai Xiaosheng, nodding, "Good, I want those two bottles of wine!"

Bai Xiaosheng smiled at her.

Lin Weiwei also smiled and then strode behind Bai Xiaosheng, returning to her original place.

With just a few simple sentences, she appeared as calm and collected as ever.

"Well, well, what big talk, claiming the last two rounds of wine for yourself! Do you really think there are no connoisseurs here?" Huo Yumeng sneered at Bai Xiaosheng, exclaiming, "Did you listen to Qian Haoyu's wine critique just now?"

"Do you think it sounded professional?"

"But to my eyes, he has a long way to go!"

Qian Haoyu, directly mocked by his ally, didn't feel ashamed but smirked at Bai Xiaosheng, "This first round, Yumeng was lenient, that's why I got my turn. Let me tell you, she's the real expert! In the past few wine events of the Zhang Family, she has been the judge!"

Huo Yumeng was that formidable!

Everyone present couldn't help but pity Bai Xiaosheng.

What now, spouting big words without understanding, are you stunned now?

Miss Yumeng, she's one of the top wine experts!

"To beat me, you are still 108,000 miles away. I see you are good to your servant, she watches you get humiliated and immediately stands up for you; there must be a close bond," Huo Yumeng mocked, "This maid, probably even tends to your bed!"

Huo Yumeng's words were over the top!

Even the woman responsible for the wine changed color and sharply reprimanded, "Miss Yumeng, watch your language!"

"Who do you think you are, you mere servant, to speak to me!" Huo Yumeng snapped at her.

She would not even give face to the Zhang Family people.

She was the Heiress of the Huo Family, Zhang Yudong's classmate, and someone who admired him!

The beauty ignored the insult towards her, instead hastily looking towards Bai Xiaosheng and the others.

She feared the rage of the honored guests.

Bai Xiaosheng calmly watched Huo Yumeng without showing anger, yet his demeanor inexplicably sent a chill down the spine.

Behind him, Lei Ying and Lin Weiwei's gazes were frighteningly cold.

Upon seeing them, the beauty felt a tremor of fear.

Especially Bai Xiaosheng at the front, his eyes calm yet as deep as an abyss amidst his anger, reminded her of the reaction of her own master, Zhang Xi, right before a rage.

This man was no ordinary person!

The beauty looked at Bai Xiaosheng with reverence.

"You say you are a wine expert? That's great, sounds like you have enough confidence; I like confident people. I want to make a bet with you now, and I hope you have the guts to accept!" Bai Xiaosheng said.

"In the following two wine tastings, win just one, and you win! We will do whatever you ask!"

"However, if I win both, I don't need you to pay any significant price."

Bai Xiaosheng pointed to Lin Weiwei standing behind him, speaking earnestly, "You'll simply bow to her in front of everyone and shout three times 'I'm a loudmouth, I'm sorry!'"

"Do you dare accept the challenge!"

Chapter 1112: Not a Single Hair's Difference in What He Said!

"You want to challenge me in wine tasting?!"

Faced with Bai Xiaosheng's public "challenge," Huo Yumeng used a scallion-white index finger to press against her own fair chest, pointing to herself and asking Bai Xiaosheng in surprise.

It was as if she had heard something unbelievable.

"You heard me right. Do you dare to accept the challenge?" Bai Xiaosheng asked indifferently.

"Ha, ha!" Huo Yumeng laughed dryly as if she had heard something extremely amusing, and then she looked fiercely at Bai Xiaosheng, "Sure!"

"Everyone heard that, right? This isn't me bullying them!" Huo Yumeng then glanced at the people around her, seeking confirmation from the crowd.

"This brother is brave! Despite knowing that Miss Yumeng has been the 'judge' at several wine meetings, he still dares to challenge her. Though it's overestimating himself, it is still commendable to challenge authority!"

"My friend, this is clearly a losing outcome for you. Could it be that you really think you can win against Miss Yumeng?"

"Impossible, I bet a million, Miss Yumeng wins!"

"I bet five million! Is anyone taking bets?"

"Who would bet with you on this, the outcome is clearly fixed."

The surrounding crowd whispered among themselves, with no one favoring Bai Xiaosheng.

Lin Weiwei was very unconvinced, somewhat angry, yet she found herself unable to refute.

If Bai Xiaosheng had spoken up during the first round of wine tasting to demonstrate his knowledge, there would be some factual basis to counterattack.

But the fact was, Bai Xiaosheng had remained silent just now!

How then to refute everyone else?

Lin Weiwei had always had great trust in Bai Xiaosheng.

He was like a walking encyclopedia, always revealing his knowledgeable side, proficient in many domains.

But this time, Lin Weiwei felt a faint worry within her heart.

Man's abilities are sometimes limited.

After all, one person couldn't possibly be an expert in every single aspect.

Right now, Huo Yumeng was universally recognized as the expert!

That many connoisseurs present regarded her with such respect!

Bai Xiaosheng had stepped forward because she was insulted, even "betting" on himself.

If he lost...

Lin Weiwei was worried about Bai Xiaosheng, her concern stirring chaos in her heart.

Lei Ying couldn't help but frown slightly, even this rough man was a bit worried for Bai Xiaosheng, but he ultimately said nothing.

Jia Dazhuang was so anxious that he was scratching his head in frustration.

Though Bai Ge's aura just now was truly. damn. cool!

There was one thing, this woman Huo Yumeng, in terms of her wine tasting skills, even the Zhang Family patriarch Zhang Xi had praised her!

Brother Bai, I know you took up the cause for Sister Lin, that's manly! But you can't just rush headfirst without seeing who's on the other side! What if you run head-on into a big truck, let alone Huo Yumeng is a locomotive!

Jia Dazhuang worried for his new friend with a heavy heart.

"Everyone heard, he said it himself! If he's a man, he should stand by his word! If he publicly goes back on it... hehe, should we all kick them out together, how about that!"

Qian Haoyu instigated the crowd, stirring them up.

"That's right, a person who goes back on his word doesn't belong here!"

"When you lose, whatever Miss Yumeng asks, you've got to comply!"

"Yes, we are all witnesses!"

The guests, both men and women, gleamed with anticipation.

These well-dressed dignitaries, now it seems, were not much more refined than the small folk found in the markets, fully confirming the saying—

Those who love to watch a lively scene really don't care how big the fuss is!

"Yumeng, you'd better be clear. If he loses, then the three of them must bear the consequences!" Qian Haoyu pointed at the three Bai Xiaosheng and then, casting his eye on Jia Dazhuang with disdain, said, "Four!"

Jia Dazhuang was taken aback, mixed emotions stirring within him.

He was pleased that he finally had a place in the eyes of his peers.

Annoyed because, just as he was making a comeback, it was to be in a losing cause!

"Who's afraid! I've been dishonored not just once or twice. I, Jia Dazhuang, do I care about that!" Seeing everyone looking at him, Jia Dazhuang suddenly got excited, patted his chest, and made a bold statement.

But this bold statement...

Sounded so desperately tragic...

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying both gave him disapproving glances.

"Fine!"

Bai Xiaosheng spoke up, his gaze coldly falling upon Qian Haoyu, "Then, if Miss Yumeng loses, what should you do?"

"I'll do the same as her, bow, apologize, and curse myself!" Qian Haoyu didn't hesitate and laughed, "The question is, can you win!"

To Qian Haoyu, and the crowd around, even if Bai Xiaosheng was a hidden master, at best he could only draw even with Huo Yumeng, resulting in a tie.

In such a situation, if one still insisted on distinguishing a winner, to whom would the Zhang Family's servants be inclined?

Isn't that also self-evident?

Certainly, it would be Huo Yumeng!

In their eyes, Bai Xiaosheng had lost before even starting.

Whether from a professional standpoint or the stance of the judges, he was bound to lose without a doubt!

Zhou Dabin couldn't help but feel pity, yet regarded it as unworthy of sympathy.

After all, it was the other party seeking their own demise; they had no one else to blame.

Who asked you to be so ignorant of the immensity of heaven and earth!

The beautiful wine tasting host, named Zhang Yunyao, was a villager from the old Zhang Family home with no blood relation.

Zhang Yunyao found herself in a deep dilemma.

She couldn't let Bai Xiaosheng lose face, absolutely not, because he was a supreme honored guest!

But Huo Yumeng, Qian Haoyu, involving the Huo Family and Qian Family, couldn't be disgraced either!

This was difficult.

Was she supposed to make them tie?

But then...

If they insisted on splitting the victor, what if they wanted a rematch?

"I can only play it by ear and stall until Mr. Zhang Xi arrives!" Zhang Yunyao thought to herself.

Chapter 1113 What he said, not a hair off!_2

She had already sent someone to quickly notify others.

Outside the hall, a succession of beauties entered, followed by servants with carts carrying utensils.

The second round of wine tasting had arrived!

"Here it comes!"

"Great!"

"It's finally starting!"

"I can hardly wait!"

The guests were extremely excited, craning their necks in anticipation, startling the beauties who were bringing in the wine.

The first round was red wine.

But the second round seemed different; the wine in the bottles was light-colored, with a delicate hue.

"With so many types of wine, the first round was still wine, and this second round—from the bottle, the color, to the subtle changes when swirled—could it be fortified wine?" Huo Yumeng glanced briefly and casually commented, "Sherry?"

What a judgement from just one look!

Zhang Yunyao couldn't help but admire her and nodded, "Indeed it is sherry, Miss Yumeng has good eyes."

When the host and "judge" affirmed this, the crowd around them erupted, full of admiration.

"Amazing!"

"Too powerful!"

"Miss Yumeng is strong!"

Huo Yumeng smiled nonchalantly; such a judgment was hardly worth mentioning.

Indeed, there are many types of wine with similar colors, and being able to determine the type of wine from just one look was no simple feat!

Qian Haoyu, standing nearby, suddenly felt proud and couldn't help but give Bai Xiaosheng and the others a smug glance.

This woman, Huo Yumeng, was usually annoying, but she truly was strong!

Seeing Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying's faces slightly change, Jia Dazhuang was dumbfounded with shock, while Bai Xiaosheng remained relatively composed.

With pride in his heart, Qian Haoyu sneered secretly, "Starting off with a disadvantage and still pretending to be calm? Ha! Let's see how you die later!"

Bai Xiaosheng was utterly calm, glimpsing from afar, and the voice of Red Lotus resounded non-stop in his mind.

"Bottle text scan complete—"

"Spectral analysis complete—"

"Dry sherry, alcohol level..."

"Using a tiered blending method, raw material determination..."

Without even tasting the wine, Bai Xiaosheng's mind was already filled with detailed information.

Zhang Yunyao had the wine prepared and then distributed to the guests present.

Bai Xiaosheng and Huo Yumeng, holding their wine glasses, walked to the center of the crowd.

Everyone's gaze was fixed intently on the two.

It was good wine; the Zhang Family's wine could never be wrong!

But no matter how good the wine was, it couldn't compare to the spectacle unfolding now!

Everyone looked forward with anticipation.

Huo Yumeng lifted her glass to admire the color of the wine before taking a light sip and closing her eyes thoughtfully, seemingly savoring the taste.

"Miss Yumeng tastes the wine and looks absolutely stunning!"

"Beautiful wine with a beautiful lady; just this scene is enough to intoxicate!"

The crowd kept praising.

"Come on, Brother Bai, you can't lose to that woman!" Jia Dazhuang, with eyes wide as green beans, focused intently on Bai Xiaosheng, clenching his fists even tighter.

Not losing face even if defeated!

Brother, our wine tasting demeanor must be impressive!

Under Jia Dazhuang's eager gaze, seeing Bai Xiaosheng not moving at all but merely watching Huo Yumeng calmly, he looked every inch the master, which made Jia even more expectant.

Bai Xiaosheng simply watched Huo Yumeng.

Watching her indulging in the wine, savoring its flavor, and her expression tender as if moved by the wine.

Bai Xiaosheng waited for her to open her eyes and then abruptly raised his glass and downed it in one gulp.

In one gulp, downed!

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As you can imagine, while Huo Yumeng was luxuriating in the taste of the fine wine and opened her eyes joyously, the first thing she saw was this.

She was completely stunned.

Bai Xiaosheng had treated the sherry as if it were just a shot of spirits.

Not only was Huo Yumeng dumbstruck, but everyone around, including Jia Dazhuang, was equally flabbergasted.

How could he drink the wine like that...

How could he drink the wine like that!

Brother, do you even know how to drink?

Jia Dazhuang truly felt like crying; even he wouldn't be so clueless!

Watching someone else taste wine was like watching a celestial being descending to earth.

Watching you drink wine was like watching a rave from the ninth heaven.

Regardless of how you see yourself, can you at least consider our feelings!

Jia Dazhuang wanted to cry.

The people around wanted to laugh.

Zhang Yunyao, dizzy.

Originally thinking about how to make them both equally matched, she hadn't expected this Mr. Bai to be utterly clueless about tasting wine!

What could he possibly taste in that!

How could she favor one side under everyone's watchful eyes...

Zhang Yunyao felt like she might soon be unemployed at the Zhang Family...

Among everyone, only Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, surprised at first, genuinely felt that Bai Xiaosheng had done it intentionally.

However, watching this scene, for some reason, they both felt inexplicably reassured.

"I truly f*cking... This is the first time I've seen anyone drink red wine like this!" Qian Haoyu burst out laughing, "Kid, you're something else!"

Defeated!

That kid was definitely doomed!

"An absolute waste!" Huo Yumeng looked disdainfully at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled without saying a word, his demeanor relaxed.

"Please give your evaluations!" Zhang Yunyao sighed softly and forced a smile.

Huo Yumeng glanced at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng gestured for her to proceed.

Ladies first!

Very gentlemanly!

However, to Huo Yumeng, it seemed Bai Xiaosheng was simply letting her take the lead because he probably couldn't comment much on the wine's intricacies.

Huo Yumeng, ungrateful.

"Dry sherry, using the Spanish tiered blending method, with Pedro Ximenez grapes as the raw material, the taste lies between Fino and Oloroso..." Huo Yumeng described confidently and leisurely.

Both Zhang Yunyao and the two professional wine tasters beside her nodded in agreement.

Afterward, Huo Yumeng spoke for a solid five minutes, nearly dissecting the wine completely!

Moreover, every point she made hit the nail on the head!

"Great!"

"Awesome!"

"Too strong!"

The compliments continued, led by Qian Haoyu.

Then, the guests all around applauded.

A resounding success!

Indeed, having served as a judge at several wine conferences before, Huo Yumeng's tasting skills and knowledge reserve were terrifyingly profound.

Chapter 1114 Exactly as He Said! _3

Afterward, even if Bai Xiaosheng tried to speak, he probably could have said no more with cleverness.

And speaking again would have just been repetitive.

Led by Qian Haoyu, the crowd coldly snickered at Bai Xiaosheng.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying had solemn expressions.

Jia Dazhuang seemed a bit disheartened.

Defeated, certainly defeated!

And the behavior of judging the wine just now was embarrassingly poor...

After Huo Yumeng finished speaking, she looked at Bai Xiaosheng with undeniable self-confidence, her gaze containing a mix of cold laughter and contempt.

How can you compare with me, what right do you have to compare with me!

Huo Yumeng's inner thoughts were clear.

Soon, how should I punish them!

Huo Yumeng even began thinking about that.

"Mr. Bai, please... make your judgment," Zhang Yunyao inwardly sighed for Bai Xiaosheng but still maintained a smile and made a "please" gesture.

"Miss Yumeng's account was quite comprehensive," Bai Xiaosheng chuckled.

Surrounding them was a chorus of "hush" sounds.

How would you respond now!

Zhang Yunyao secretly shook her head.

Calm and unhurried, Bai Xiaosheng smiled and said, "Unfortunately, it is comprehensive but not detailed! And moreover, there are several mistakes!"

"If such ability qualifies someone to serve several terms as a wine judge, I can only say that the standards of the Zhang Family Wine Festival are nothing special, truly an amateur level!"

In Bai Xiaosheng's smile, his voice remained steady yet every word was clear.

But his words were as if cold water had been thrown into a pot of oil.

The whole field erupted!

No, it exploded!

"What did he mean by that!"

"Did he say Miss Yumeng made several mistakes?"

"He is saying our level here is average!"

"Utter nonsense, baseless!"

The crowd was furious and criticized Bai Xiaosheng loudly.

Huo Yumeng's eyes widened as she glared furiously at Bai Xiaosheng.

"You!"

Even Zhang Yunyao was taken aback.

What a way to speak!

Jia Dazhuang was dumbfounded too.

"Kid, what place do you think this is, allowing you to spout nonsense and slander Yumeng? Just by looking at how you taste wine, I know you know nothing, just blabbering!" Qian Haoyu pointed angrily at Bai Xiaosheng, his voice stern.

Under the gaze of many eyes and amidst the uproar,

Bai Xiaosheng appeared nonchalant, walked over, casually picked up a bottle of Xueli wine, and poured himself another glass.

"The type of this Xueli wine, Miss Yumeng got right, it's dry Xueli wine. That is indeed commendable."

Bai Xiaosheng swayed his wine glass, chuckled.

This praise sounded rather mocking.

Huo Yumeng became enraged.

Then, Bai Xiaosheng continued, "The layered blending method is mostly accurate, however, if you noticed the subtle changes in the aroma and the differences in the texture of taste, and if you had enough information, you would know this is the result of an improved manufacturing process!"

"This wine was born from a novel blending method!"

"If you are unaware, then I suggest you pay more attention to the trends in the wine-making industry and avoid being ignorant!"

"You!" Huo Yumeng was belittled as ignorant, immediately bursting with anger, yet unable to retort on the spot.

The rules of wine tasting must be adhered to.

When it's another's turn to taste, it's taboo for outsiders to interrupt.

Even the surrounding chatter had to be quiet at this moment, with a strict prohibition against disturbances.

Unable to contain herself, Huo Yumeng, whose outburst was quite unseemly, clamped her mouth shut, clenched her teeth, glared at Bai Xiaosheng, and forcibly suppressed her anger as she listened.

"Additionally, regarding the raw brewing ingredients, it was not Pedro Ximenez grapes used, but a completely new variety..."

"And furthermore, regarding the year, blend, alcohol content, taste..."

"They are all, each one, inaccurate!"

Bai Xiaosheng looked at Huo Yumeng, pointing out each "error" one by one.

The onlookers, seeing Bai Xiaosheng's calm and confident demeanor, couldn't help but hold their breath and concentrate.

Many were involuntarily affected by Bai Xiaosheng's aura, subconsciously feeling—

The guy seemed to know what he's talking about!

Perhaps some of it is true!

Even Jia Dazhuang was dumbfounded.

Is this still the Bai Xiaosheng who had just gulped down Xueli wine?

He's amazing!

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying exchanged looks and couldn't help but smile.

Such a state of Bai Xiaosheng, in their view, was a sure win!

"Complete nonsense, utterly ridiculous!"

Just as Bai Xiaosheng finished speaking, Qian Haoyu suddenly burst out furiously, raising his voice.

Rarely, Huo Yumeng was a bit dazed.

Inside, she suddenly felt uneasy.

Perhaps what this person in front of her was saying had some truth!

"Fake, all of it is fake! Just rambling!" Qian Haoyu was unrelenting.

"No, what he's saying is right, I can prove it!" Among those responsible for bringing the second round of wine, suddenly someone spoke up.

Yet, that voice sounded unusually stiff and awkward, difficult yet filled with excitement.

A tall-nosed, bearded foreigner strode forward, eyes shining with deep respect looking at Bai Xiaosheng.

"Prove it, who are you!" Qian Haoyu glared at him.

"I am Antonio." The bearded foreigner looked at Qian Haoyu and said, "This wine, produced in my estate, I came here to do business with Mr. Zhang Tianyu!"

"Now, do you think I'm qualified to prove it!"

"My wine, this gentleman's critique was absolutely spot-on!"

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Chapter 1115 Confident off the Charts, Huo Yumeng

The big-bearded foreigner, Antonio, was incredibly excited and went up to give Bai Xiaosheng a solid hug.

This was how people in his country greeted friends.

It also signified Antonio's recognition of Bai Xiaosheng and his immense admiration for Bai Xiaosheng's displayed talent in wine appreciation.

Bai Xiaosheng knew this custom and, with a smile, handled it with ease.

This caused Antonio to smile and nod in approval, increasing his fondness for Bai Xiaosheng by another degree.

The guests on the scene stared with their mouths agape at this scene.

Is this for real!

The owner of the European winery comes out to confirm that Bai Xiaosheng is the one who is right?!

"My God, does that mean this young man can taste the ingredients and the method of brewing of the wine?"

"This... is simply unbelievable."

"I thought he was just a novice, but it turns out we have a champion here!"

"I still find it hard to believe!"

The sound of discussions buzzed around them.

Surrounded by amazement, Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying just exchanged smiles.

Such scenes were not uncommon in days past!

"My heavens!" Jia Dazhuang exclaimed with an uncontrollable smile spreading across his face, his cheeks beaming with delight.

Who would have thought that brother Bai was so strong!

Not only did he beat Huo Yumeng?

No, this... this is a crushing victory!

Old Jia was so excited that he wanted to wave a flag and cheer for Bai Xiaosheng.

"This can't be possible, I... I got so much wrong!" Huo Yumeng's complexion was extremely unsightly, her beautiful eyes rounded in astonishment.

She was wrong, and so terribly off the mark?

Huo Yumeng looked at the wine glass in her hand, unable to believe it.

The one who found it hardest to accept was not only Huo Yumeng but also Qian Haoyu.

"How can you prove your identity!" Qian Haoyu pointed at Antonio and yelled, "Saying that the wine is brewed by your winery, you... you present the evidence!"

Qian Haoyu's thinking was bizarre, as he directly targeted the big-bearded foreigner, Antonio.

It seemed he wanted to prove that Bai Xiaosheng was cheating.

Zhang Yunyao's face changed, and she immediately shouted sternly, "Mr. Yu, mind your words and actions. Mr. Antonio is a distinguished guest of the Zhang Family, a noble person who must not be..."

Zhang Yunyao stopped talking because Antonio raised his hand, stopping her.

Zhang Yunyao was part of the Zhang Family people and being able to host this wine tasting indicated her high status.

If she spoke in such a manner and showed such absolute respect, then Antonio's identity surely couldn't be mistaken.

The guests saw this and even looked at the foreigner with some reverence.

After all, someone who could discuss business with the current head of the Zhang Family, Chairman Zhang Tianyu of the Zhang Family Group, definitely had no ordinary status and was not just a small winery owner.

"Your name is Qian Haoyu, and your father is Qian Chengshan, right?" Antonio asked Qian Haoyu with a smile.

Qian Haoyu was stunned.

How did this foreigner even know his father?

"Just yesterday, I met with Mr. Qian; he wanted to collaborate with me, but unfortunately, your Qian Family's strength did not satisfy me," Antonio said unapologetically, "If you don't believe my identity, you can call Mr. Qian."

Upon hearing these words, Qian Haoyu was dumbfounded.

This big-bearded foreigner refused even his dad and said...

Their family's strength was not enough!

The surrounding guests widened their eyes, staring at Qian Haoyu with odd looks.

Qian Haoyu only felt those gazes were filled with mockery. Although no one spoke, undoubtedly, many reveled in schadenfreude, laughing at his misfortune.

Qian Haoyu felt a mix of shame and anger but was at a loss for words.

Or rather, he didn't dare make a scene in the presence of the big-bearded foreigner.

After all, that was the man whom even his father was eagerly trying to please.

Zhang Yunyao watched and sighed inwardly.

Qian Haoyu really was incompetent, utterly disgracing himself!

"Esteemed sir, this is my business card; I welcome you to visit my winery when you have time! You shall be my honored guest!"

Antonio ignored Qian Haoyu and turned to Bai Xiaosheng, even taking out a remarkably exquisite business card to hand over with a smiling face.

His attitude towards Bai Xiaosheng was utterly different from his treatment of Qian Haoyu.

"Good, I'll definitely come by when I have time," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, accepting the card without hesitation.

Antonio smiled contentedly, nodded, and turned to leave.

This foreigner was interesting; he could blend into the crowd to watch the excitement, speak out for justice, and then depart as soon as it was over.

He indeed had a bit of the knight-errant style found in novels.

Bai Xiaosheng nodded silently in approval.

Everyone looked on with eyes full of reverence as Anthony departed.

Zhang Yunyao even bowed slightly when Anthony passed in front of her, as a sign of respect.

Among those who had brought the wine, many attendants immediately followed Anthony out.

It seemed that this big-bearded foreigner had come incognito to see if anyone could identify his wine.

The outcome must have satisfied him.

The room was silent until the bearded foreigner had completely vanished from sight, and still no one spoke.

Qian Haoyu stood there, dumbfounded, struggling to regain his composure for quite some time.

"Miss, did I win this round of wine tasting?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile, addressing Zhang Yunyao.

Zhang Yunyao smiled sweetly, extending her fair hand, fingers together, pointing at Bai Xiaosheng.

"This round of wine tasting, the winner is Mr. Bai Xiaosheng!"

She knew Bai Xiaosheng's name and introduced him to everyone present.

Everyone turned their gaze toward Bai Xiaosheng.

Warm applause broke out.

Just now, Bai Xiaosheng's performance had been impeccable, even earning high praise from the winery owner himself, who personally invited him over.

They had no reason not to admire him.

"Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, you've won this round," said Zhang Yunyao, beaming, gesturing for an unopened bottle of Xueli to be sent over, and added, "My name is Zhang Yunyao, you can call me by my name, or simply Yunyao."

Bai Xiaosheng nodded with a smile.

Lin Weiwei stepped forward gleefully, taking the bottle of Xueli and flaunting it before Huo Yumeng and Qian Haoyu.

The two of them were so infuriated, their faces turned pale.

"You said it, you have to win them all to be the winner!" Huo Yumeng said through gritted teeth, looking at Zhang Yunyao and ordering, "Start the next round right away!"

"Indeed, next round, you will undoubtedly lose!" shouted Qian Haoyu.

Without needing their urging, some of the Zhang Family servants had already walked in.

But this time, there were no beauties holding wine bottles, only two carts were pushed in, bearing some oddly-shaped special containers.

From the outside, the containers had the appearance of a not-too-small wooden barrel, but the material and structure inside were unknown.

The guests looked curiously.

"What kind of wine is this?"

"There's no bottle, it's in a barrel?"

"Could it be that the third round is beer?"

The guests exchanged glances, their curiosity sparking discussion.

Huo Yumeng also paused in surprise.

"This wine is quite special; it's brought by one of our esteemed guests tonight at the Zhang Family. You're quite privileged to taste it," said Zhang Yunyao with a mysterious smile, having the champagne glasses brought over.

The glasses for this round were unusually crafted with slender stems, and the top formed a shallow, triangular champagne coupe!

These glasses, often used for cocktails, were also known as — cocktail glasses!

"Why use this type of glass?"

"Is that champagne or a cocktail inside?"

"Is that the packaging for champagne?"

"A cocktail? That's even more absurd!"

The crowd was abuzz.

Zhang Yunyao smiled without saying a word, instructing staff to pour the wine from the container.

As the first stream of wine flowed out, a strange scent suddenly wafted around, silencing everyone.

The top wine connoisseurs among the guests, just by smelling that fragrance, revealed a kind of intoxicated intrigue in their eyes.

"I have never smelled such an alluring wine scent, yes, how enchanting!"

"I'm so curious to taste it! What wine is this?!"

A murmur of unrest stirred among the guests.

Huo Yumeng's brows were slightly furrowed, as if she was deep in thought and recollection.

Suddenly, her eyes sparkled.

Yes!

This wine was no ordinary beverage; not everyone could have a taste!

Ordinary people wouldn't even have heard of it, much less tasted it!

She herself had only had the fortune to taste it once.

And had never forgotten since!

Seeing that even Qian Haoyu was perplexed and Zhang Yunyao intoxicated and confused, Huo Yumeng felt more confident than ever.

"Among all present, I fear none know but me," she thought with immense pride.

Meanwhile, Bai Xiaosheng also furrowed his brow, full of doubt.

He was familiar with this wine, too.

Could it be... "Encounter"?

Chapter 1116 You Drank the Wrong One

"Ingenious Hand's unexpected discovery, this wine stirs the heart, like a serendipitous encounter of incredible beauty in this world—its name is 'Encounter.'"

"The name of this wine, it was Bai Xiaosheng who named it!"

It was unexpected that this wine would show up in the third round of the wine tasting.

Bai Xiaosheng was amazed.

This coincidence really matched the name of the wine!

Zhang Yunyao said the wine was brought by a guest, could it be that tonight's mysterious guest—

was Mo Xin!

Thinking back to that girl, Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but smile warmly; she was both gentle and lively, possessing a heart like a heroine and a spirit for adventure, which indeed left a deep impression on him.

Over the past year or so, Mo Xin also contacted him from time to time.

Unexpectedly, now, they were about to reunite at the Zhang Family's event!

Indeed, after the original formulation of "Encounter," it had gone through several improvements; now just the aroma of the wine was enough to make one reluctant to stop.

Every time there was an improvement, Mo Xin would report to Bai Xiaosheng and seek his opinion.

If Bai Xiaosheng didn't approve, she wouldn't make the change!

It was funny that the latest "Encounter" had only been heard of by Bai Xiaosheng, he really wanted to taste it.

"Mr. Bai, this time, you should give up!"

Just as Bai Xiaosheng was reminiscing, he suddenly heard someone sneer.

Bai Xiaosheng came back to his senses, and just then, a servant brought him a glass of wine.

Bai Xiaosheng took the wine glass and looked up.

The speaker was Huo Yumeng.

At this moment, she stood there, pinching the thin stem of the glass between her thumb and index finger, her beautiful eyes slightly mesmerized by the wine in her glass as if beholding nectar and ambrosia.

In her expression, there was also a reverence for the fine wine.

Seeing her behave like this, the guests who had received their wines dared not be careless.

They desperately wanted to taste it but were afraid of not appreciating it properly and ruining such beautiful wine, so they kept watching Bai Xiaosheng and Huo Yumeng, hoping to get "guidance."

When Huo Yumeng spoke, everyone's attention converged on her.

"Do you want me to give up?" Bai Xiaosheng laughed, "I wonder what makes Miss Huo say this, perhaps you understand this wine very well?"

His words made Huo Yumeng scoff.

"Among all here, no one understands it better than I do!" Huo Yumeng glanced at Bai Xiaosheng, confidence and a trace of scorn evident in her gaze, "Because I have had the fortune to taste it once and I have heard the wonderful tales about it."

So confident?

More than I, the original creator?

Bai Xiaosheng smiled, "Oh? Then, Miss Huo, how might you instruct me?"

Faced with Bai Xiaosheng's obstinate demeanor, Huo Yumeng's eyes filled with a "one cannot carve rotten wood" attitude.

"Miss Huo, since you've tasted this wine and know so much about it, why not share with us?" Zhang Yunyao couldn't help saying.

In her hand, she too held a glass of wine.

Even as the host of this wine tasting, she had not tasted this wine and like everyone else, both wanted to drink yet feared being disrespectful to such fine wine.

Many nodded their heads, their gazes eagerly on Huo Yumeng.

Even Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying were somewhat curious.

Bai Xiaosheng had told them about "Encounter," but they had never tasted this version after several amendments, naturally, they couldn't recognize it.

Only Bai Xiaosheng with his exceptionally keen senses, paired with Red Lotus, the super AI, managed to identify it without issue.

"This woman has tasted it? Then this round, I'm afraid it's a loss! But with fine wine in front, losing is not shameful." Even Jia Dazhuang muttered, caring more about the wine than winning the competition.

In his view, Bai Xiaosheng had already won a round; even losing one would just be a draw, not a shame at all.

Under the eager attention of everyone, Huo Yumeng's lips curved into a smug smile.

Only she had tasted this wine!

Only she knew this wine!

At that moment, Huo Yumeng felt like she was an almighty queen, a sovereign ruling over everything!

What Bai Xiaosheng, what precise evaluation of Xueli's wine, what was that!

Now, let him have nothing to say!

"This wine, its name is 'Encounter.'" Huo Yumeng began her passionate rendition.

Everyone immediately became silent and listened intently.

"It is said, there was a young couple, the male handsome and talented, the female beautiful and gentle; they encountered each other unintentionally, attracted and adored each other. Day by day, they felt every day was the most wonderful time in the world!"

"However, the boy knew that the girl was extraordinary, and that one day, she would leave."

"The girl also knew that separation was their inevitable future."

"They buried the mutual awareness of parting in their hearts, happily spending each day until that day arrived..."

Huo Yumeng passionately narrated, her eyes enchanted.

This story, told in the simplest terms, seemed to narrate a rather ordinary story at first hearing, yet it irresistibly drew listeners in, reminding them of their own first loves, the initial stirrings of affection.

"Finally, the girl left. The boy did not get to hear a goodbye from her lips."

"However, the girl sent a message through someone else, just three words—"

"'I'll wait for you!'"

"The boy never lost hope, always striving; he believed that one day, he would stand before her and return her three words—"

"I've arrived!"

"No earth-shattering, no sworn vows, just like an encounter, a lifelong promise to follow!"

Huo Yumeng's long eyelashes had unwittingly gathered a moment of sparkling tears, touched by the modest beauty of the story.

Both the male and female guests at the scene seemed moved, many with moist eyes but smiling faces.

"This is the story behind this wine, the origin of this wine."

Huo Yumeng looked around, and seeing that nearly everyone was moved, she couldn't help but feel proud.

However, when she saw Bai Xiaosheng, she unexpectedly noticed that this man had a strange expression—

A bit of not knowing whether to laugh or cry?

Contemptible, vulgar people!

Huo Yumeng glared fiercely at Bai Xiaosheng, even feeling a bit angry.

Bai Xiaosheng remained indifferent, only sighing in his heart—

"Mo Xin, you guy! You took the story I once told and turned it into a brand story and spread it out!"

After glaring at Bai Xiaosheng, Huo Yumeng raised her wine glass towards the guests present, "To the beauty in the story, let us taste the wine 'Encounter' together."

Many people immediately raised their glasses.

"Everyone, drink the red wine in this way, smell its aroma, sip a small amount, and half gargle with it, allowing the wine to fully mix with the air in your mouth and touch every part!"

Following Huo Yumeng's instructions, many people couldn't help but do as she said.

Even Huo Yumeng herself, cautiously tasted it.

The wine entered the throat, leaving a lingering aftertaste.

Many people looked incredibly excited.

"This is the wrong way to drink it."

Suddenly, a voice came through, unhurried but clear.

The delightful atmosphere seemed to be abruptly interrupted.

Many people looked over in surprise.

Huo Yumeng also opened her eyes, frowning as she looked over.

The mood being interrupted was very irritating!

It was Bai Xiaosheng who had spoken.

"You're saying the way I drink is wrong?" Huo Yumeng looked disparagingly at Bai Xiaosheng, scoffed, "What a joke!"

"You're just seeking attention. If you say Yumeng is wrong, then tell us, how should one drink!" Qian Haoyu angrily added,

He had drunk as Huo Yumeng instructed, and felt his taste buds were fully satisfied.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled without speaking, walked straight to the bar, and directly concocted a drink with some juice and a type of base liquor, lightly adding just a little of each.

Then, Bai Xiaosheng picked up the glass, downed it in one gulp, and nodded his head.

"Ah, now that's refreshing. This modified version of 'Encounter', with its lasting aftertaste, that's the most beautiful moment."

"Not dragging it out and prolonging the process!"

Huo Yumeng and others watched, dumbfounded.

Then, Huo Yumeng and Qian Haoyu erupted in anger, unleashing a tirade.

"Nonsense!"

"Utter rubbish!"

"This is blasphemy!"

"Do you even know how to drink this wine!"

"Don't believe him!"

The two were furious like thunder.

Everyone also looked at Bai Xiaosheng sceptically, thinking how can such a beautiful wine be drunk so crudely.

Many even started to echo the sentiment, accusing Bai Xiaosheng of not knowing how to drink.

Of course, most of those people had already had a drink.

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying went over and tried as Bai Xiaosheng had done, their eyes immediately lighting up.

This reaction made quite a few people hesitate.

Jia Dazhuang felt extremely conflicted, clutching his wine glass, not knowing what to do.

"Do you really believe that crude method? Is that the way to drink this fine wine!" Huo Yumeng, seeing many people wavering, suddenly shouted.

The crowd was speechless.

Zhang Yunyao was also at a loss for words.

"I believe!"

Suddenly, from behind the crowd, outside the hall, a voice as clear as a bell chimed in.

"Who, who is talking nonsense!" Huo Yumeng angrily looked over.

Everyone looked.

A group of people "whooshed" into the hall, led by an exceptionally beautiful woman with a pure and sweet smile, accompanied by Zhang Yudong.

Seeing Zhang Yudong with a stunning, unfamiliar woman, Huo Yumeng instantly felt a surge of jealousy and angrily said, "You believe? What gives you the right!"

"Shut up, Huo Yumeng, don't go too far!" Before the woman could respond, Zhang Yudong angrily said, "Miss Mo Xin is the creator of this wine!"

At that, everyone was shocked.

Huo Yumeng's eyes widened in disbelief, staring at the woman called Mo Xin.

The creator of this exquisite wine?

Mo Xin smiled, looking at them, then focused on someone.

"I'm just a modifier, I dare not claim to be the creator," said Mo Xin, pointing to Bai Xiaosheng, her smile sweeter than ever, "the man you all are questioning."

"He is the real creator of this wine!"

At that statement, everyone present was thunderstruck!

Bai Xiaosheng, the creator of this wine?

They were... questioning the creator?!

Chapter 1117 Arrogant Brat!

The entire audience was wide-eyed as they looked towards Bai Xiaosheng, and they couldn't help but lower their heads to examine the wine glasses in their hands.

Then, everyone erupted.

"So, he's the original creator of this wine!"

"Since the wine is his, of course he knows how to drink it! What he says is correct! Huo Yumeng is the one who's wrong!"

"To be able to create such an exquisite wine! No wonder he only needed a taste to completely 'understand' that sherry!"

"That winery owner who treated him differently was truly more perceptive than us!"

"It seems that, from beginning to end, we were blind to the true greatness before us!"

...

"Since he's the creator, doesn't that count as cheating?"

"The wine was prepared by the Zhang Family, and they had no idea! Besides, luck is also part of strength; how can it be cheating?"

"Also, didn't you hear the beauty say that this wine has been revised!"

"Indeed!"

...

Bai Xiaosheng's victory was unanimously approved by all the guests.

Many people looked at their empty wine glasses with immense regret.

"Why did I just gulp down that 'Encounter'st right away!"

"Mistakes were made, regrets had, now the wine is gone!"

"Damn it, we foolishly trusted Huo Yumeng and wasted this fine wine!"

Those who hadn't drunk were suddenly beaming with joy.

They all flocked to the bar, asking the bartenders for help with the drinks.

Jia Dazhuang was so happy his grin almost reached his ears.

Just now, he almost couldn't hold back, but for the sake of "friendship," he had restrained himself.

Now it seemed he had made the right bet.

Who would have thought this Bai would be so formidable!

This time he won big!

Jia Dazhuang almost wanted to hop to the bar, first savor the wine, then watch Huo Yumeng and Qian Haoyu make a fool of themselves.

There's no greater joy in life than this!

Zhang Yunyao looked at Bai Xiaosheng with admiration in her eyes before gracefully walking towards the bar.

Just now, she was the sharpest, drinking half and saving the other half, betting on both sides.

In the end, she didn't lose out.

After tasting the newly mixed "Encounter," many people felt a joy so intense it almost brought them to tears.

"So the aftertaste is the most beautiful flavor of this wine, amazing!"

"Having the chance to drink such a wine, this trip wasn't in vain!"

"I must buy some of this wine, at any cost!"

Many people exclaimed excitedly.

This made those who were previously frustrated feel even more so, and they even looked at Huo Yumeng with blame.

It seemed as if they resented Huo Yumeng for leading them astray.

Even someone snorted quietly, "What so-called wine expert, what few wine tastings hosted, pah!"

The person who spoke naturally feared being discovered by Huo Yumeng, but greatly enjoyed the idea that their voice was heard by her.

Huo Yumeng indeed heard it.

She immediately glared around but realized many people were looking at her.

Huo Yumeng saw everyone as if they were the ones who spoke, but at the same time, they all seemed utterly innocent, proving it wasn't them by their demeanor.

Huo Yumeng looked around in a rage, unable to find an outlet, and felt increasingly wronged by the many mocking gazes directed at her.

She looked to Zhang Yudong for comfort, but found him talking with Mo Xin.

Zhang Yudong's face was full of smiles, also glancing occasionally at Bai Xiaosheng.

His smile seemed to contain both shock and delight.

He was completely ignoring her side!

Huo Yumeng stamped her foot in anger.

She didn't care about Zhang Yudong's attitude towards Bai Xiaosheng; what she saw was full of banter with Mo Xin!

It must be said, sometimes the perspective of a woman is very unique and peculiar.

Huo Yumeng's hatred swiftly shifted from Lin Weiwei to Mo Xin.

"Old Zhang, that's not right of you to help an outsider over one of your own!" Qian Haoyu glanced over there, muttering beside Huo Yumeng, "And, being so close with that beauty, it's too much, just too much."

Qian Haoyu felt resentful that Zhang Yudong wasn't being considerate enough, felt the Zhang Family was ungrateful.

But right now, he was more concerned about the bet with Bai Xiaosheng!

So many people were watching, and they all acknowledged Bai Xiaosheng's victory!

How could it be!

Was he, Qian Haoyu, really going to apologize to that girl beside Bai, that servant, bowing down and admitting his mistake in public?

And to shout out loud three times, "I have a loose tongue, sorry."

His reputation Qian Haoyu worked for his entire life would be completely gone!

He couldn't do such a thing to save his life!

Qian Haoyu was completely unwilling; he had to find a way to break the agreement.

But how to break it...

Qian Haoyu turned his attention to Huo Yumeng. If she caused a scene, who would pay attention to him.

To say, Huo Yumeng really was a very astute woman.

But any woman, under certain conditions, could have moments of complete lapse of intelligence.

And the examples were numerous...

Now, Qian Haoyu began to give a little push on the sidelines as Huo Yumeng was in a fit of rage, promoting her intellect to quickly capitulate.

Huo Yumeng's silver teeth nearly shattered.

Sure enough, her eyes became more devoid of reason.

...

Zhang Yudong and Mo Xin already walked towards Bai Xiaosheng, smiles covering both their faces.

Bai Xiaosheng, accompanied by Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying, greeted them with a smile as well.

"I didn't expect to find you here, Xiaosheng! Why didn't you let me know beforehand, and I would have come over earlier!" Mo Xin's smile was as bright as flowers, with a tone that held slight reproach.

"I didn't know that the mysterious guest would be you," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, then appraised Mo Xin, complimenting her, "It's been over a year since we last met, and you've become even more beautiful."

"Not at all!" Mo Xin responded, bashfully but timidly.

"Mo Xin."

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying also greeted with a smile.

They had been involved in rescuing Mo Xin, so they were familiar with each other.

It's just that they weren't present when Bai Xiaosheng created "Encounter."

Chapter 1118 Arrogant Child!_2

But later on, Bai Xiaosheng had talked to them about the matter.

"Weiwei, Lei," Mo Xin also greeted them with a smile.

Beside them, Zhang Yudong was delighted, "I didn't expect you to be old acquaintances!"

After he finished speaking, Zhang Yudong looked at Bai Xiaosheng and exclaimed from the heart, "Brother Bai, you are truly amazing to have created such an exceptional wine!"

Faced with Zhang Yudong's heartfelt admiration, Bai Xiaosheng simply smiled modestly.

"Just a hobby."

Zhang Yudong was startled but chuckled and nodded.

His heart was racing.

A hobby?

Do you know how popular this wine is in the high society of Europe?

It's nearly overshadowing several famous wines!

All the major family banquets take pride in having "Encounter"!

Having heard about the investigation done by his father, Zhang Tianyu, Zhang Yudong knew how much this wine was sought after in high circles.

And to think it was Bai Xiaosheng's original creation!

Just the earnings from this wine alone...

Zhang Yudong felt as if Bai Xiaosheng had a golden glow around him.

Actually, Mo Xin's visit this time, and the grand welcome by the Zhang Family, were all to secure the agency rights for this wine in Huaxia!

The Zhang Family's strength in the country wasn't top-notch, but their connections were unparalleled.

Mo Xin had seen value in this.

However, Mo Xin had not finalized the deal yet.

She herself said she was only responsible for the agency; the wine's creator hadn't given the final agreement!

Unexpectedly, the creator was Bai Xiaosheng!

How could Zhang Yudong not be surprised and astonished!

When he looked at Bai Xiaosheng, his eyes were almost fiery.

If they could secure the agency rights for this wine, even if it were exclusively for the top circles, the Zhang Family's business could reach new heights!

Concerning family development and the future, Zhang Yudong naturally placed great importance on this!

Currently, Bai Xiaosheng was an old acquaintance of Grandfather Zhang Xi, and with this relationship, there was great potential here!

Zhang Yudong was trembling with excitement.

While Bai Xiaosheng was exchanging pleasantries with Mo Xin, Huo Yumeng huffed over, with Qian Haoyu closely following behind, his eyes filled with subtle anticipation.

If Huo Yumeng stirred up trouble, any bet or whatever would naturally fade from people's attention!

"Brother Dong, who are these people?!"

Huo Yumeng came to Bai Xiaosheng, Zhang Yudong, and the others, her face unpleasant, forcefully interjecting.

Even now, she was unaware of Bai Xiaosheng's identity, and even Mo Xin, she simply thought of as that mysterious guest.

In Huo Yumeng's mind, she even thought that Bai Xiaosheng and Mo Xin were just winemakers, perhaps just people from some wine industry circle.

Actually, the Zhang Family had acquired a big business this year, concerning the wine industry, and she knew of this.

Even, it was common knowledge to everyone.

But whether it was her or others, no one knew that the Zhang Family acquired this company to handle the agency for Mo Xin's "Encounter" and several other wines!

And the reason why the Zhang Family agreed to Shen Peishen's demand to take down Shang Wenshu, the greatest benefit, was to enjoy the highest market-entry status for this wine in several eastern provinces.

As Zhang Yudong saw Huo Yumeng coming with ill intent and speaking harshly, he immediately frowned.

He wasn't uninformed, he knew what was happening here; Huo Yumeng was targeting Bai Xiaosheng, even establishing a ridiculous bet!

Now, as Zhang Yudong saw it, the approach was terribly foolish!

It made it difficult for their Zhang Family!

If Bai Xiaosheng were just a Senior Affairs Officer of Zhenbei Group, it would be fine; the grandfather could come forward and clear up the misunderstanding with his relationship.

But now Bai Xiaosheng was also the original creator of "Encounter"; if Bai Xiaosheng was upset, could this business deal with the Zhang Family still happen?

Zhang Yudong's heart clenched!

If it were just for an exceptional wine, for a single market, the Zhang Family wouldn't be so cautious.

There were hidden layers here!

The Zhang Family was so fond of this wine, and had even started a big company, not just to connect with Europe, but to build relations with families there to expand their business more broadly.

Their plans were extensive, and the Zhang Family spared no effort in this investment.

Mo Xin was a crucial part of this, not only because of her status as a top European winemaker and mixologist but also due to her influential family background!

But now, it was obvious that Mo Xin held Bai Xiaosheng in high regard.

If Bai Xiaosheng was unhappy, then what would Mo Xin do!

Their Zhang Family's plans would be greatly affected!

Zhang Yudong's heart clenched, his expression immediately darkened, "Yumeng, these are distinguished guests of the Zhang Family! You need to show some respect! I heard you just had a conflict with Brother Bai? I am aware of the details. You were wrong, quickly apologize to Brother Bai."

Huo Yumeng and Zhang Yudong were classmates and good friends, he knew her intentions well.

Thus, he endured her, let her have her way.

Even the Zhang Family, because of their partnership with the Huo Family, had given immense face to Huo Yumeng, this proud princess over the years, letting her act like a semi-mistress here, commanding the servants around.

But the Zhang Family's tolerance wasn't meant for Huo Yumeng to ruin their good fortune!

Huo Yumeng's eyes widened, staring at Zhang Yudong oddly.

Zhang Yudong was siding with an outsider to scold her, even in a commanding tone!

This shocked and angered Huo Yumeng.

Even Qian Haoyu did not expect Zhang Yudong to be so blunt, and even asking Huo Yumeng to apologize to the other party?

"Old Zhang, that's too much! Yumeng is after all our own family member, how can she apologize to outsiders. What status do they have to be so arrogant, I think they should apologize to our Yumeng!" Qian Haoyu glared at Bai Xiaosheng, "Kid, I don't care who you are, but a grown man bickering with a woman, you are in the wrong! Also, do you know our relationship with Brother Dong? I warn you, take what you can when you benefit, and don't overstep!"

Chapter 1119 Arrogant Brat!_3

Qian Haoyu was clearly fanning the flames, not trying to defuse the situation.

Zhang Yudong's face changed immediately, and he looked towards Bai Xiaosheng in a hurry.

Bai Xiaosheng had a calm expression, but his gaze was unusually cold, and he spoke slowly, "Too much, you say? Well then, I shall be 'too much'!"

"You!" Qian Haoyu was furious, as if Bai Xiaosheng had no sense, no inkling of danger!

Mo Xin had already brought her people to stand behind Bai Xiaosheng with emotionless faces, but it seemed they would follow Bai Xiaosheng's lead without question.

At Bai Xiaosheng's single command, she would walk away without looking back, even if it meant abandoning a partnership with the Zhang Family discussed over the last six months!

Lin Weiwei and Lei Ying stood indifferently on the other side.

They were all waiting for Bai Xiaosheng's order.

"Qian Haoyu, that's enough of you!"

In the midst of the tense atmosphere, someone rushed to Bai Xiaosheng's side and berated Qian Haoyu.

It was Jia Dazhuang.

At this moment, Jia Dazhuang was no longer afraid.

Determined to stand by his friend, he spoke up on Bai Xiaosheng's behalf with a burst of righteous anger.

"Qian Haoyu, as a young master of the Qian Family, how can you be so shameless? Don't you understand the principle of integrity, or the saying 'you must accept loss in gambling'? What does this have to do with gender! Huo Yumeng accepted the challenge, so she must follow the rules, and we all saw that, right? And even if she, as a woman, may not be required to uphold the agreement to the fullest extent, what excuse do you, a man, have for not doing so?"

Jia Dazhuang's cries roused the surrounding guests, drawing them all in, murmuring amongst themselves.

"That's right, you should abide by the agreement!"

"Yeah, especially those from prominent families like the Qian Family, they should definitely do so!"

The rare support from the crowd boosted Jia Dazhuang's confidence, and he spoke with exceptional fluency.

"Hold your tongue, Jia Dazhuang, what the fuck are you!"

Qian Haoyu immediately exploded in anger.

This matter, which was supposed to be concealed amidst the conflicts with Huo Yumeng and someone with the surname Bai, was unexpectedly dug up by someone with the surname Jia!

"Enough, Mr. Yu, hold back your words; you too should accept the loss in gambling!" Zhang Yudong said angrily.

He, of course, knew the content of the gambling agreement, and he had asked Huo Yumeng to apologize to avoid that awkward outcome.

Unexpectedly, Qian Haoyu had popped up and made the situation even worse.

Qian Haoyu was causing more harm than good, arrogant beyond measure, even acting above the Zhang Family people in their presence.

It was only because Grandfather Zhang Xi bore in mind old loyalties that Zhang Yudong, out of sight and out of mind, didn't want to sour friendships unduly. But given such disrespect from Qian Haoyu, even Zhang Yudong's patience was wearing thin.

So be it then.

Let's stick to the agreement.

"Keeping promises is the foundation of business!"

Zhang Yudong's statement aroused loud cheers from the crowd.

Huo Yumeng was like someone who had suffered great injustice, her beautiful eyes brimming with tears, furiously glaring at Zhang Yudong.

She had been wholeheartedly devoted to him.

Yet he demanded that she apologize publicly as per the gambling agreement, bringing disgrace upon herself.

Huo Yumeng was utterly heartbroken and furious beyond words.

"I won't!"

Huo Yumeng clenched her teeth in humiliation, glaring at Zhang Yudong, then pointing at Bai Xiaosheng, "For their sake, you actually want me to face humiliation. I, Huo Yumeng, have been sincere to you for so many years—do I deserve this treatment? Zhang Yudong, ask yourself, do you deserve me, you, you!"

Huo Yumeng was so angry, she was beyond words.

Qian Haoyu was also filled with rage, like a cat with its tail stepped on, "Zhang Yudong, after all these years of friendship, you side with outsiders!"

"Fine, I, Qian Haoyu, have been blind! Have you forgotten how my Qian Family helped your Zhang Family back in the day, and now you all forget! Now, you even let me be humiliated in your house for the sake of outsiders, how can you be at peace with that!"

"Today, I, for one, will not keep my word. So what!"

"In such an ungrateful place, what's the use of talking about rules!"

Qian Haoyu's frenzied outburst was unrestrained, even shouting publicly.

The guests whispered among themselves.

Zhang Yudong was shivering with anger.

Bai Xiaosheng watched with an unchanged expression.

From start to finish, he had never forced Huo Yumeng and Qian Haoyu to keep the agreement.

However, his silence did not mean that he did not expect Huo Yumeng and Qian Haoyu to fulfill it.

Those two had publicly insulted him and Weiwei; now they wished to just walk away from it?

Such wishful thinking did not exist!

He, Bai Xiaosheng, was not someone to be trifled with or easily bullied!

If Huo Yumeng had really just apologized as Zhang Yudong had said, he would have felt shortchanged!

This world keeps shouting about equality between men and women.

They demand equal rights, then emphasize "she is a woman" when it comes to duties.

Moreover, what does this have to do with gender?

Since they dared to accept the wager, they must bear the consequences!

In Bai Xiaosheng's view, if he had lost, he too would have accepted it gracefully, and the other party might not have spared them out of respect for the Zhang Family!

Why hold back then!

The surrounding guests were silent, yet their eyes were wide with anticipation.

Today's excitement was indeed at fever pitch.

"Huo Yumeng, Qian Haoyu, I, Zhang Yudong, now formally demand that you admit defeat and apologize to our esteemed guests of the Zhang Family!" Zhang Yudong's face was as dark as storm clouds, and he spoke with authority.

At this command, the Zhang Family people were ready for action, their gazes stern.

"I refuse!" Huo Yumeng shouted angrily, ready to leave.

"Indeed, refuse! The Zhang Family's ingratitude, to assert that a benefactor has to apologize to an outsider—we've all seen it. As a member of the Qian Family, I disdain their character!" Qian Haoyu yelled, "Today, don't even mention Zhang Yudong— even if Old Master Zhang himself came, he couldn't expect an apology from me! Let's go, Yumeng, we're leaving this place!"

Qian Haoyu truly had no regard for face, was shamelessly arrogant, and it nearly blasted Zhang Yudong with anger.

Bai Xiaosheng had already signaled to Lei Ying; if they attempted to leave, he should stop them.

Lei Ying discreetly nodded and prepared himself.

Just then, a resoundingly loud voice came from outside the hall.

"So, even if I personally come, you won't admit defeat and keep your word?"

"Qian Family brat, your words are arrogant!"

Chapter 1120 I, Personally, Forgive You!

Outside the hall, a group of people surged in, escorting a middle-aged man and an elderly figure.

The middle-aged man carried himself with an imposing aura, clearly accustomed to a lofty position of power, his demeanor so authoritative that anger was unnecessary to instill respect.

At this moment, however, he was carefully accompanying the elderly man by his side, daring not to show an ounce of disrespect on his face.

The elder's expression was as still as water, his strides firm and powerful, his presence even more commanding than that of the middle-aged man.

Many pairs of eyes narrowed suddenly, and the atmosphere turned tense.

The newcomers were none other than the Zhang Family's helmsman, Zhang Tianyu!

And the elderly figure was the Ancestor of the Zhang Family—Zhang Xi!

Instantly, the hall fell silent as a mausoleum.

All the guests present stood up straight, their faces showing reverence, and they parted to the left and right, clearing space and revealing Bai Xiaosheng and the others.

"Ancestor Zhang!"

"Mr. Zhang!"

As Zhang Xi and Zhang Tianyu proceeded forward, everyone bowed slightly, greeting them in a soft voice.

The two men nodded slightly, their faces wearing a polite smile.

However, as they looked forward, it was clear that their smiles contained a hint of displeasure.

Taking into account the earlier scene, many people's gazes became meaningful, their eyes secretly shifting to Qian Haoyu.

And Qian Haoyu was dumbfounded.

Just moments ago, he had been so imposing, his shouts thunderous.

There wasn't a single person present who hadn't heard him.

His words were still ringing in their ears, the sound not yet settled—

"How did the Qian Family help you Zhang Family back then, have you all forgotten!"

"In such an ungrateful place, what rules are there to speak of!"

"Even if the old master of the Zhang Family himself comes, don't expect me to apologize to them!"

To say such words in the Zhang Family's territory was not only arrogant but also audacious!

But while his previous words were grand, the Ancestor of the Zhang Family had now arrived.

Those words had suddenly turned into thunder. If not careful, they might explode and completely obliterate him.

Looking at the elderly Mr. Zhang Xi and how Zhang Tianyu regarded him with an indifferent, emotionless gaze, Qian Haoyu wished he could slap himself.

Why do I have such an uncontrollable mouth!

Qian Haoyu was panicking inside.

What to do now!

What, to, do!

...

Zhang Xi and Zhang Tianyu stood not far in front, their aura making Qian Haoyu feel his legs turning to jelly. He strained his face several times before managing to force a very reluctant smile.

Huo Yumeng also didn't dare to be rash any longer, yet still appeared pitiful and tearful as she looked up at the two elders, bowing her head submissively, "Grandfather Zhang, Uncle Zhang!"

The two men nodded slightly in response.

Zhang Yunyao's demeanor was respectful as she bowed from afar.

Jia Dazhuang sidled up to Bai Xiaosheng, pulling at him and whispering in a low voice, "Brother Bai, that middle-aged man is the helmsman of the Zhang Family, the Chairman of the Zhang Family Group, Mr. Zhang Tianyu. The elderly gentleman beside him is the Ancestor of the Zhang Family, Mr. Zhang Xi. We younger folks dare not make a fuss in front of these two!"

"Now, with Qian Haoyu attracting the firepower, we just need to stay put and not fan the flames. You don't need to take the initiative to plead your grievances either."

"Just answer whatever they ask us, that's it..."

Although Bai Xiaosheng seemed to have a close relationship with Zhang Yudong and the mysterious guest Mo Xin, Jia felt that in front of these two great figures of the Zhang Family, Bai might not amount to much.

Jia Dazhuang was afraid Bai Xiaosheng would speak up, demanding a so-called "justice," forcing the Ancestor of the Zhang Family to lose face, and that they might win a meaningless moral victory but end up suffering a real loss.

In Jia's view, even though Mr. Zhang's initial words upon arrival sounded stern, the relationship between the Zhang and Qian families was not ordinary.

The Qian Family was a benefactor and a partner of the Zhang Family, and with Mr. Zhang being so revered and maintaining his dignity, how could he genuinely be angry with a junior.

Compared to them, Bai Xiaosheng was still an "outsider."

With both venerable figures from the Zhang Family present, everyone around was silent, and Jia Dazhuang felt it necessary to offer a kind reminder.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled at him, developing an even better impression of the man.

Meeting is fate; perhaps he could bestow a favor upon old Jia.

Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

Meanwhile, Qian Haoyu had already approached with a smile.

Only, his smile was uglier than tears.

"Grandfather Zhang, Uncle Zhang, what brings you here. Ah, if only someone had informed us younger ones ahead of time, these servants are truly infuriating!"

Qian Haoyu wasn't stupid; with what seemed like a complaint, he was subtly reminding the two that he was just a junior.

As a junior, a slip of the tongue, an impetuous outburst, surely the elders wouldn't take it seriously.

"Qian Family's youngster, for a junior, you sure can make yourself heard," Zhang Xi's smile was icy cold, making Qian Haoyu shiver, "loud enough to command us around in our own Zhang Family home, accusing this old man of being ungrateful. I think you're the elder here!"

These were grave words!

"That's just the words of a youngster in the heat of the moment, a slip of the tongue!" Qian Haoyu immediately explained with an apologetic smile, "We were just fooling around here, got a little out of hand!"

"Fooling around!" Zhang Tianyu repeated these words with a neutral face.

"That's right, Uncle Zhang, just messing around!" Qian Haoyu's eyes darted before he pointed at Bai Xiaosheng, "It's all because of this guy over there, he was too much, even making Yumeng humiliate herself publicly."

"You see, isn't it only right for me to stand up for our own people! Except, in doing so, I got myself involved. Initially, it was none of my business!"

"That person insisted on making me eat my words! How could I agree to that? After all, I am the Qian Family's successor, and in front of our Zhang Family, it would reflect badly on you too if I lost face!"

Qian Haoyu was indeed adept at sophistry.

Jia Dazhuang curled his lip, secretly saying to Bai Xiaosheng, "Let him talk, pay no attention, we must endure..."

Before Jia Dazhuang could finish, Bai Xiaosheng had already spoken up, his words targeting Qian Haoyu directly.

"Since you acknowledge yourself as the Qian Family's future successor, you should at the very least have the minimum responsibility! You've made your bet, now honor it! Now, apologize to my assistant!" Bai Xiaosheng called out, and then pointed to Huo Yumeng, "And you too!"